Filing Date: November 29, 2001

Title: ELECTRONIC MEASURING DEVICE FOR DETECTING A PROCESS VARIABLE, IN PARTICULAR A RADAR OR ULTRASONIC FILLING LEVEL MEASURING DEVICE, AND A METHOD FOR OPERATING A MEASURING DEVICE OF THIS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) An electronic measuring device for detecting a process variable connectable to a two-wire line for providing the supply energy and for digital communication with a process control, and for this purpose in particular, comprising
 - a two-wire terminal, and including
 - a sensor means for measuring adapted to measure the process variable,
 - a controlling device for controlling components of the sensor means,
- a voltage measuring device for measuring the supply voltage applied through the twowire line, and
- a current control unit by means of which the adapted to supply input current for supplying the measuring device can be appropriately set as a function of the supply voltage measured by the voltage measuring device, so that the input current is adapted corresponding to the actual power demand during a time that is not detrimental to the communication.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein further comprising a device for determining the instantaneous an instantaneous power loss is present, and wherein the controlling device connected with said device for determining an instantaneous power loss and the current control unit a predetermining a variable desired value for the current control unit sets as a function of the determined power loss.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein a pre-given maximum value for the input current may be given to the current control unit receives a pregiven maximum value for the input current.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 2, wherein the device for determining an the instantaneous power loss is connected with a capacitor so as to measure the temporal development of the voltage at the capacitor and thereby the power loss.

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- 5. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 2, wherein the device for determining the instantaneous power loss includes a micro-controller, an A/D converter connected with said micro-controller, and a capacitor connected upstream of an ultrasonic transmitter for storing energy for the sensor means.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein further comprising a device to determine is present by means of which the frequency of occurrence of sensor excitements ean be determined without performing a measurement.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein further comprising a current limiter limiting means is present connected with the current control unit.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein the sensor is adapted to dissipate a power loss due to a power demand excess is dissipated by a controlled output of a pulse by the sensor means without entailing a measurement.
- 9. (Original) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein a power loss due to a power demand excess is transformed into heat.
- 10. (Original) The electronic measuring device of claim 1, wherein a power loss due to a power demand excess is determined through a current sensing resistor within the current control unit.
- 11. (Currently Amended) An electronic measuring device for detecting a process variable connectable to a two-wire line for providing the supply energy and for digital communication with a process control, and for this purpose in particular, comprising
 - a two-wire terminal, and including
 - a sensor means for measuring the process variable,

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a controlling device for controlling components of the sensor means, and

a current control unit by means of which the to set current drawn by the measuring device through the two-wire line terminal ean be appropriately set as a function of the current drawn by the sensor means so that the current is adapted corresponding to actual power demand and is not detrimental to the communication.

- 12. (Original) The electronic measuring device of claim 11, wherein the current control unit includes two controls, one keeping the total current constant, and one providing for the fact that a little current is flowing through a shunt arm at all times.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 11, wherein the current control device includes a device for determining an instantaneous power loss is present, and the controlling device connected with said device for determining an instantaneous power loss and the current control unit predetermining a variable desired value for the current control unit as a function of the determined power loss.
- 14. (Original) The electronic measuring device of claim 13, wherein the device for determining an instantaneous power loss is connected with a capacitor so as to measure the temporal development of the voltage at the capacitor and thereby the power loss.
- 15. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 13, wherein the device for determining an instantaneous power loss includes a micro-controller, an A/D converter connected with said micro-controller, and a capacitor connected upstream of an ultrasonic transmitter for storing energy for the sensor means.
- 16. (Original) The electronic measuring device of claim 11, wherein a device is present by means of which the frequency of occurrence of sensor excitements can be determined without performing a measurement.

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- 17. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 11, wherein <u>further</u> comprising a current limiter limiting means is present connected with the current control unit.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim 11, wherein the sensor is adapted to dissipate a power loss due to a power demand excess is dissipated by a controlled output of a pulse by the sensor means without entailing a measurement.
- 19. (Currently Amended) The electronic measuring device of claim ± 11 , wherein a power loss due to a power demand excess is transformed into heat.
- 20. (Original) The electronic measuring device of claim 11, wherein a power loss due to a power demand excess is determined through a current sensing resistor within the current control unit.
- 21. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an electronic measuring device for detecting a process variable connectable to a two-wire line for providing the supply energy and for digital communication with a process control, <u>comprising</u>:

measuring wherein the supply voltage applied through the two-wire line is measured in the measuring device, and

modifying the current to for supplying the measuring device is modified in a temporally appropriate manner as a function of the measured supply voltage measure by the voltage measuring device so that the current is adapted corresponding to the actual power demand while allowing digital communication.

- 22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the voltage drop is measured at a resistor for determining an instantaneous power loss.
- 23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the power loss instantaneously generated in the measuring device is determined for determining an appropriate power input.

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- 24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said method is realized in a measuring device including a sensor means, in which the distance from the filling product surface of a filling product present in a receptacle is determined by means of ultrasonic pulses.
- 25. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said method is realized in a measuring device including a sensor means, in which the distance from the filling product surface of a filling product present in a receptacle is determined by means of radar pulses.
- 26. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an electronic measuring device for detecting a process variable connectable to a two-wire line for providing the supply energy and for digital communication with a process control, <u>comprising</u>:

determining current drawn by a sensor;

adapting wherein the total current drawn through the two-wire line by the measuring device to the determined sensor current is adapted by using a current control unit to a sensor eurrent drawn by a sensor means such that the drawn total current is adapted corresponding to the actual power demand within a space of time not detrimental to communication.

- 27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein a loss current in a shunt arm is kept at a minimum.
- 28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the power loss instantaneously generated in the measuring device is determined for determining an appropriate power input.
- 29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the temporal development of the voltage at a capacitor connected upstream of the sensor means for measuring the process variable is measured for determining the instantaneous power loss.

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- 30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the frequency of occurrence of sensor excitements is determined without performing a measurement.
- 31. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein said method is realized in a measuring device including a sensor means, in which the distance from a filling product surface of a filling product present in a receptacle is measured by means of ultrasonic pulses.
- (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein said method is realized in a measuring 32. device including a sensor means, in which the distance from a filling product surface of a filling product present in a receptacle is measured by means of radar pulses.
- (New) A two-wire line, electronic measuring device for detecting a process variable, 33. comprising:
 - a two-wire terminal;
- a sensor operably connected to the two wire terminal and adapted to detect the process variable;
- a voltage measuring device operably connected to the two-wire terminal and adapted to measure a supply voltage; and
- a current control unit operably connected to the two-wire terminal, the current control unit being adapted to supply current as a function of the supply voltage measured by the voltage measuring device such that the input current meets power demand and allows digital communication.